

ABSTRACT

This invention relates to a method and apparatus to provide Short Message Services (SMS) provisioning when different SS7 signaling networks are in use. The method can be used when mobile units are roaming in a SS7 network different than the MS home network, and when the MS is roaming inside or outside of its SS7 type of network.

The HLR, which includes a memory for storing a database of point code schemes and country codes, also stores all location data for the MSC including the SMS Address and the MSCIN. The HLR analyzes the SMS Address to determine the nationality of the MSC. The HLR compares the MSC's REGNOT point code and MSCIN country code with the country code in the MC's SMSREQ calling party address to determine whether the MC and MSC point codes are the same. If they are the same, the smsreq is populated with the common point code from the SMS Address. If not the same, the smsreq is populated with the MSCIN parameter.